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THE ELKHORN MERCURY

VOLUME XXXIX. ELKHORN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1945 NUMBER 9

Week-End SPECIALS!

Canned Corn Per tin (limit 1) 17c
PRUNES 2 lbs. 29c
TOMATO JUICE, 48oz. size Per tin 27c
2 Pints Maple Syrup requires 1 preserve coupon 75c
Old Hickory SODAS 1½lb. size Per pkg 31c
Campbell's Tomato Soup, 2 tins for 21c
PEANUT BUTTER, 24oz. Per jar 37c

W. O. RUDD
General Merchant
Telephone No. 6 - ELKHORN, Manitoba

Specials!

Pickled Pigs Feet 14oz. jars 30c
Tomato Juice, 20oz. 2 tins for 25c
Shortening 2lbs 35c
Tomatoes, choice Per tin 17c
Ideal Cleanser Per tin 06c
Green Beans 20oz. tin 16c

New Spring stock of Ladies' Dresses, including Jersey Silks, just arrived.

Men's & Boy's Winter Clothes at 25% reduction

WE SPECIALIZE IN OVERSEAS PARCELS!

Ross' General Store
Telephone No. 24 - - ELKHORN, Man.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Important Message to Parents

On or about July 1, 1945, the Dominion Government at Ottawa will start making payments under the new Family Allowance Act. If births of any of your children have not been registered in the Vital Statistics office, IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO SO IMMEDIATELY, OTHERWISE PAYMENTS TO YOU MAY BE DELAYED.

ACT NOW!

Don't wait another day. It is in your own interests to look into this matter AT ONCE! If you are not sure whether births have been registered, simply write to Department of Health and Public Welfare, Division of Vital Statistics, Winnipeg. Give name, date and place of birth of each child, also names of parents. Fee for this necessary service is very small.

Department of Health and Public Welfare
HON. IVAN SCHULTZ, K.C., Minister

The World's News Seen Through
THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
An International Daily Newspaper
is Truthful—Constructive—Unbiased—Free from Sensationalism — Editorials Are Timely and Instructive and Its Daily Features, Together with the Weekly Magazine Section, Make the Monitor an Ideal Newspaper for the Home.

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Price $12.00 Yearly, or $1.00 a Month.
Saturday Issue, including Magazine Section, $2.60 a Year.
Introductory Offer, 6 Issues 25 Cents

Name.....
Address.....

SAMPLE COPY ON REQUEST

Rebekah 'V' Bundles Very Worthy Effort

The Rebekah's December shipment to 'V Bundles' contained—

For Women—2 Coats, 3 Suits, 2 Skirts, 3 Dresses, Sweater, 3 pr. Hose.

For Children—Skirt and Sweater, 3 Cotton Suits, Boy's Trousers.

Also 10 miscellaneous articles and 1 Quilt.

These were all in first class condition as we repair or re-make when necessary.

We are grateful to all who have contributed to this work in the past and hope to be able to continue our shipments, so please send along any articles of clothing you do not particularly need. Share your wardrobe with those made destitute through bombing in Britain.

A.L. Norris, Convenor

BOY'S CURLING CLUB

A junior boy's curling culb has been organized with the following slate of officers—

Patrons—Mr. C. Moore, Virden; R.H. Mooney, M.L.A.
President - Geo. Hennan.
Vice-Pres.—Lionel Middleton.
Sec.-Treas.—Doug. Loewen.
Executive—Frank Williams, Glen Snyder, Jas. Lamb.

Through the courtesey of the curling club, the boys play two games a week on the early draw.

OBITUARY

MRS. SAMUEL GREENWOOD

We pause again from our daily task to record another sad family loss, as brought to our notice in the death of Mrs. Sam. Greenwood, which occurred in Elkhorn Hospital on Saturday, January 6th, after this well - known lady had suffered a stroke. She was 63 years old.

This kindly, well-respected woman, highly thought of by all her acquaintances, despite her reticent manner, came with her husband from Minnesota, U.S.A. in 1907 and they bought land near the town of Willen, Section 33-13-28, directly north of Elkhorn. Here they farmed thoroughly, consistently facing good and bad seasons, and now at a time when the fortunes of the average farm family appear to be on he uprise, death has severed a lifetime companionship. Truly the ways of life seem hard at times, and much sympathy is extended to the bereaved husband, her daughter Pearl (Mrs. W. Rogers) Los Angeles California, and her son Irvine, at home. She is also survived by two sisters—Mrs. Frank Mlinar, Hopkips, Minn., and Mrs. Alfred Maas, St. Boniface, Minn. There are two brothers, Gustave and Albert Thurk, of Minnesoa.

The funeral service was held at the residence on Monday, Jan. 8th, and was conducted by Rev. Bater of Fleming, in the presence of the family and a goodly number of sympathetic neighbors. Interment followed at Elkhorn Cemetery.

The pall-bearers were Messrs, G. Allison, P. Young, A. Rogers, W. Bratten, Bob Walker and Carlton Anderson.

Floral tributes paid silent testimony of love and respect.

TEST SPROUTED GRAIN FOR GERMINATION

Wet weather at harvest time last fall resulted in widespread damage to wheat, oats and barley over large sections of Manitoba. Sprouted grain is common on many farms, particularly in the Red River Valley and Southern Manitoba. Germination tests on his sprouted grain reveal a reduction in germination of from 30% to 50%. Farmers who use this sprouted grain as seed next spring without making allowances for reduced germination are bound to have thin stands and lower yields. *All grain, showing any evidence of sprouting, if being saved for seed purposes, should be tested for germination now.* Germination tests may be conducted on the farm by planting 100 seeds in flower pots or flats and counting the number of healthy plants after 12 days. Envelope samples of grain (½ lb.) may be forwarded to the Plant Products Division, Dominion Public Building, Winnipeg, for a germination test at a cost of 50 cents. Germination tests free of charge are conducted by the Line Elevators Farm Service, Grain Exchange Building, in Winnipeg. Farmers having sprouted grain are urged to:

1. Keep own seed only if it is of high quality.
2. Test such seed for germination now.
3. If germination is low because of sprouting or other cause,
   (a) Exchange for sound grain of high quality which can be found in almost every neighborhood,
   or better still,
   (b) Purchase stocks of registered or certified seed through the Manitoba Crop Improvement Association. All local elevator agents have price lists and order forms.

THE ELKHORN STADIUM COMMISSION

NOTICE

The annual meeting will be held at the home of the Chairman at 3 p.m. (C.D.S.T.) on Thursday, January 25th, 1945.

Agenda—
Presentation of reports by the chairman, manager and treasurer.
Election of Officers and Executive Members for the year 1945.

All who possess shareholder's credentials are entitled to attend the meeting and vote.

C. W. Johnson, Chairman.
Fred C. Norris, Secretary.

"A BUNDLE OF SPEECHES"

Bruce Hutchison

Lying around in my brief case for months, and carted back and forth across this continent three times, unread, is a large brown envelope. It contains copies of speeches made from time to time by Stuart Garson, Premier of Manitoba. I asked for them but I never got around to reading them until I found myself on a train today, without a detective story to my name; a hard plight for any traveling man.

So I read Mr. Garson's speeches, and I came to the conclusion—which I had suspected from talking to him many times—that here is by long odds the most promising young politician in Canada. As he grows—he is now in his early forties only— no office will be too large for him, and Manitoba will be much too small.

✦ ✦ ✦

The secret of Mr. Garson's rapid rise in our politics is a very simple thing—he is honest. I do not mean that other politicians go about robbing cash registers, for most of them are quite unbribable in money. I mean he is intellectually honest and in the best senses, very simple. And in his simplicity he has studied men and men's problems with a mind which, it now appears, is of the highest calibre. That he is unable to imagine himself as a big man, with a big future, that his only wish is to get out of politics as fast as he can is only another proof of his sound and healthy character.

As Premier of a great Canadian province, Mr. Garson is interested in provincial autonomy, though he has not made a fetish of it, for local purposes, as certain other gentlemen have done. He knew the Canadian Constitution as a lawyer and just what righs the provinces had in theory. But what about practice? Mr. Garson emerged with the conviction that autonomy in law isn't much use if you are "broke" in fact. That was precisely the position of many provinces during the depression when, for all their boasted autonomy they were on Ottawa's doorstep, asking for loans, British Columbia among them.

✦ ✦ ✦

What is the trouble? Mr. Garson thought it through, and has given Canada its best argument on the need of a complete overhaul in our constitution, in the relationship between the Dominion and the provinces.

He puts it very briefly in his speeches this way: By the constitution the provinces are bound to carry out a large part of the social services and the post-war reconstruction of

(Continued on local page)

J. Bonnar Williams Chief Among Masons

The following were recently installed as the officers of Elkhorn Masonic Lodge for the current year—

J. Bonnar Williams, W.M.
Harry L. McMillan, I.P.M.
Albert O Lyon, S.W.
James A. Mills, J.W.
Charles J. Shepherd, Treas.
H. J. Jones, Secretary.
S. E. Gibbs, Chaplain.
Charles A. Mitchell, S.D.
Charles Bartley, J.D.
George E. Bartley, S. Steward.
J. M. McCorkindale, Dir. of C.
Ralph H. Hesper, J.S.
Ben A. Marshall, I.G.
George Harry, Tyler.

RED CROSS WOMEN'S WORK SECTION

The few present at the meeting of the Red Cross Women's Section on Jan. 5th, expressed pleasure at the group's last year accomplishment of raising $1628.90. Contrary to being broke after Christmas, the section started the New Year with a balance of over $300.00 on hand. Of this amount $100 is being sent to the Prisoners of War fund and $100 to Red Cross headqaurters for medical supplies.

The ladies wish to thank Mr. Ross for the donation of a very pretty fruit bowl and are grateful to Mrs. Davey for donation of $1.00

CARD OF THANKS

I desire to express my sincere appreciation to all who came to proffer assistance at the time of the fire on my farm, Jan 6th.

E. A. K. Bales.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY

The B.E.S.L. Auxiliary will cater to the annual banquet, January 26. Only 450 tickets will be sold. Particulars later.

RED & WHITE Food Stores

R & W COCOA Half lb. tins 11c
TOMATO JUICE R & W, 2 tins 22c
BAKING POWDER, R & W 1 lb. tin 23c
PEAS, R & W Per tin 15c
BEANS, VAN CAMP'S 4 packages for 24c
COFFEE, R & W 1 lb. 45c
SALMON Per can 25c
CORN Per tin 16c
TOILET TISSUES 8 oz. Three for 25c

McGAVIN'S BREAD
CAKES AND PASTRY
ALWAYS FRESH

Red & White Stores
W. H. Tottle, Proprietor
Phone 37 Elkhorn

Seasonable Offerings!

GLASS CUPS and SAUCERS
Bed Springs and Mattresses Cot & Mattress
Galvanized PAILS----Tubs----Bath Tubs
CURLING BROOMS

Starting January 6th the store will close at 7 p.m. on Saturdays.

BEAVER LUMBER COMPANY, LIMITED

OUR JANUARY CLEARANCE

REAL SPECIALS---Come quickly to Secure Them!

CHILD'S SNOW SUITS 2 to 14 years, reg. $10.95, now $7.95
GIRL'S WINTER COATS 8 to 12, yrs. Regular $15.95, now $8.95
CHIED'S WINTER COAT, 2 to 6 yrs. Regular $8.95, now $5.95
BOY'S Mackinaws with fur collars Regular $10.50, now $7.95
MEN'S Black Horsehide Coats Beaver Lamb collars, reg. $18.95 $15.95
MEN'S all wool checked Mackinaw Windbreakers, reg. $6.95, now $4.95

G. E. BARTLEY
We Are Ready To Serve United Store ELKHORN, Phone 4

MAKE YOUR OWN CIGARETTES WITH
MACDONALD'S
Fine Cut
THE FINEST TOBACCO YOU EVER SMOKED
12M

The Value Of Freedom

TWICE IN TWENTY YEARS we have been called upon to fight for the principles of government and the way of life in which we believe. The cost in sacrifice and suffering in the war from 1914 to 1918 was very great. This time it is even greater and the price has not yet been fully paid. This time, too, we have come nearer than ever before to being overrun by an enemy whose aim it is to destroy all democratic institutions and to govern by regimentation. There have been periods during the past five years when the prospects of our winning the war were far from certain. During these years the people of most of the democratic countries in Europe have learned what it is like to live under German domination, and all this has led to a new awakening to the great value of our freedom, and of our need to take a much more active interest in both national and international affairs, if we are not to be again, and perhaps even more seriously, threatened in the future.

• • • • •

News Reforms Are Proposed

The provision for post-war freedom among people, as laid down by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt in the Atlantic Charter would undoubtedly go far towards removing the causes of another war. Since that time there have been additional suggestions for the fuller promotion of understanding and co-operation among nations. Among these is the proposal made last year at a convention of newspaper editors in Washington, for a plan for the free exchange of news in time of peace. This proposal has received support in many quarters, and Senator W. H. Buchanan, the president of the Canadian Press, has suggested that a "freedom of the news clause" be included in the final peace treaty. For many years, the press on this continent and in Great Britain has been completely free of any government interference or control. In Europe, however, a vastly different situation has existed and government controlled news services had much to do with increasing the mounting tension and distrust which led to the present war.

• • • • •

Might Avoid Further War

If such conditions are allowed to continue after the war, further trouble is bound to result, for government controlled news services may disseminate distorted facts not only to their own people but to the world at large. Ample demonstration of the evils of the system have been seen in the workings of the German, Japanese, and Italian official news services in the years before the outbreak of war, as well as at the present time. The influence of newspapers on public opinion is considerable and it is obviously most desirable that the people of Europe should enjoy the same type of news service as do those in the English speaking countries. If provision for such service should be included in the peace treaty, it might prove an important step in avoiding further wars. However, in this, as in many other things, there will first have to be interest and enthusiasm for the proposed reform among the people to be affected by it.

Saves Many Lives

Noted Canadian Doctor Speaks Of Plasma Treatment In Field

A vastly increased chance for life has been given Canadian servicemen wounded at the front through the extensive use of the new infection-killing drugs, such as penicillin, and through blood plasma, a noted Hamilton doctor and sportsman, who was in command of a 1,200-bed Canadian base hospital in England, said. He is Col. D. A. Warren, M.C., who returned to his Toronto home after serving overseas since September, 1943.

While the basic treatment of the wounded at the hospitals in Great Britain was similar to that used during the Great War, the men were "in much better shape" when they arrived now at the base hospitals from the field clearing stations.

"A tremendous number of lives have been saved through more efficient treatment and the use of the new drugs and plasma when the men are first treated on the field," he said.

HELP FROM MEXICO

The senate authorized President Avila Camacho to send Mexican troops to the battle fronts whenever and in whatever way he deemed advisable to contribute to the victory of the Allied nations.

Private Wins Out

Gets Priority Over Generals For Home In Ottawa

Generals may get priority on the war fronts but at home its the private who wins out.

Housing registry officials told how a private soldier returned from the wars was given preference over five generals listed on registry books as seeking living accommodation.

"After all the generals can afford to live in hotels until they find a home and the private soldier couldn't," said an official.

The register lists a number of high officers and diplomats who are without homes.

SELECTED RECIPES

ESCALLOPED POTATOES

6 potatoes, medium size
1 onion, medium size
2 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon corn starch
½ teaspoon salt
Dash of pepper
Dash of paprika
2 cups milk
½ cup buttered crumbs

Pare and thinly slice potatoes; let stand in cold water while preparing sauce. Peel and thinly slice onion. Melt butter in saucepan, add corn starch; blend and let bubble over low heat for three minutes. Add seasonings and milk; stir and cook until smooth and thickened (this sauce is very thin). Arrange alternate layers of sliced potatoes, sliced onion and sauce in 1½ quart casserole oiled with mazola having sauce on top. Cover and bake in fairly hot oven till potatoes are tender. Fifteen minutes before time of baking is completed, remove cover, sprinkle top with buttered crumbs and return to oven to brown. Serves 6.

COLE SLAW

1 egg, slightly beaten
1 tablespoon corn starch
1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon butter
⅓ cup cider vinegar
⅓ cup corn syrup
1 cup whipped cream
4 cups finely shredded cabbage

Combine slightly beaten egg, corn starch, mustard, salt, butter, vinegar and corn syrup. Cook, stirring constantly, until thick; cool. Just before serving add whipped cream and shredded cabbage. Serve in salad bowl garnished with lettuce and cress. Serves 10. 2602

Neuralgia
RELIEVE THE PAIN
Relief comes quickly with cooling, soothing Mentholatum. Also for head colds, chapping, burns and bruises. Jars and tubes, 30c.
MENTHOLATUM
Gives COMFORT Daily

To relieve distress of MONTHLY
Female Weakness
Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is made especially for women to help relieve periodic pain with weak, nervous-tired, irritable feelings — due to functional monthly disturbances. Pinkham's Compound helps nature and that's the kind of medicine to buy! Follow label directions. Worth trying!
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

Price Control And Rationing Information

Q.—Will you kindly list the ration coupons dates for the month of January?

A.—Sugar: Coupons 46-49 now valid; Coupons 50-51 become valid January 18. Butter: Coupons 90-91 now valid, 92 valid January 11, 93 valid January 18, 94 valid January 25. Preserves: Coupons 33-36 now valid, 37-38 become valid January 18. No expiry date announced on any of these coupons.

—o—

Q.—Does the lifting of a Board Order restricting the manufacture of an article mean that it can be produced?

A.—No. If there is not sufficient labor available due to war production, it is impossible to get the article manufactured.

—o—

Q.—My youngster's shoes have not worn any too well and I'd like to send them to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. However, I've looked inside the shoe and there isn't any way of telling who made them. In this case what information should I send?

A.—If you have already taken the shoes back to the retailer and he hasn't been able to give you satisfaction, you are right in sending them in to the Board. Be sure to send the name of the store where you bought them, the price you paid and the date on which you made the purchase. Last June the Board passed an order which stated that all Canadian made footwear must have the manufacturer's Wartime Prices and Trade Board license number stamped on the footwear. After January 1, 1945, this manufacturer's number will be substituted with a code number. This code number should be always referred to if you have reason to believe that there is degration of quality in the shoes you have purchased.

—o—

Q.—Is it necessary to give tenants their six months' notice to vacate on a special form?

A.—Yes, any six months' notice can only be given on a form provided by the Rentals Administration of the Board and may be obtained from your nearest Board office.

—o—

Please send your questions or your request for the pamphlet "Consumers' News" or the Blue Book in which you keep track of your ceiling prices mentioning the name of this paper to the nearest Wartime Prices and Trade Board office in your province.

Oatmeal was eaten with wine, strong beer, and ale as well as milk in England in the early 17th century.

ITCH CHECKED in a Jiffy -or Money Back
For quick relief from itching caused by eczema, athlete's foot, scabies, pimples and other itching conditions, use pure, cooling, medicated, liquid D. D. D. PRESCRIPTION. Greaseless and stainless. Soothes, comforts and quickly calms intense itching. Don't suffer. Ask your druggist today for D. D. D. PRESCRIPTION.

For Service In East

Air Officer Says Chaplains Should Be "Tough And Young"

A firm belief that chaplains who wish to accompany their men to the Far Eastern war theatre should be "tough and young" to stand the tropical climate is held by Flt.Lt. Hugh Pritchard, R.C.A.F., 28-year-old officer commanding at an Air Ministry Experimental Station in Ceylon.

"They should be willing to train with their men and move wherever war takes soldiers," the officer said. A student of theology and, before enlisting, assistant minister at Westminster Central United Church, Bloor street east, Toronto, he is the son of Rev. H. J. Pritchard, B.A., D.D., one-time minister at North Broadview United Church, Toronto.

Flt.-Lt. Pritchard believes his two and a half years' service in the jungles of Ceylon and India, during which time he had malaria three times, has been a real education and that the experience will be a help to him when he finally resumes his ministerial career.

When he enlisted with the R.C.A.F. as a radio mechanic in April, 1941, he had completed six years of a seven-year course in theology at the University of Toronto. He was active in various organizations at Varsity and played inter-faculty lacrosse, rugby and volleyball.

Weather Reports

Greenland Is Of Much Value In Obtaining Reliable Data

Destruction by U. S. Coast Guard forces of a German weather-reporting station on Greenland indicates the value of this territory in securing reliable and accurate weather reports in Europe. For European weather starts in Greenland. This particular German meteorological unit was destroyed in the past summer and fall, three ships sunk and about 60 personnel captured. There was evidence that planes had been attached to the expedition.

Ever since the outbreak of war the German high command has endeavored to operate weather bureaus on Greenland, and because of the size of the land much of it still uncharted the discovery and location of these groups was difficult.—London Free Press.

MANY CASUALTIES

Canadian service chaplains have paid a high price for their work in this war, have had a lot of casualties and have won many decorations, Lt. Col. Rev. J. Gordon Jones, first Baptist chaplain to go overseas, said in an interview at Toronto.

Potatoes were not used as food in Europe until 100 years after their discovery in South America.

How D'Artois' Parachuted Into France

Here is how Capt. Guy D'Artois of Montreal, and the woman who was to become his wife in a few days, parachuted into France to work with the underground, for months prior to the invasion. Mrs. D'Artois, a British secret agent, is an English woman.

YOUR CHICK PROFITS... ARE IN This BAG
OGILVIE MIRACLE CHICK STARTER
... because the ingredients in "Miracle" Chick Starter are scientifically balanced to give baby chicks full food value ... without harming their delicate digestive systems.
ASK FOR "MIRACLE" FEEDS!

C.N.R. WAR RECORD

Service Standards Maintained In Face Of New Records In Tonnage And Passenger Traffic

(By R. C. Vaughan, Chairman and President)

In the fifth full year of war, which brought with it, the invasion and liberation of much of Nazi-occupied Europe, which saw the Soviet advance continuing triumphantly and saw, in the Pacific, new and severe blows against Japan, the Allied Nations made long strides toward victory. On the home front in Canada, the people continued to meet the demands of their war effort with that vigor and resourcefulness which have won them an honored place among the nations. Their magnificent support of the Seventh Victory Loan in November was but one example of their energy and seriousness.

Another was the year's record of the Canadian National Railways system. As the largest single industry in Canada and one of the most important instruments of war, the Canadian National may be taken as a gauge of the country's activities as a whole. In 1944, we continued to use to the utmost all our resources, both manpower and material, in the service of the nation and a review of the year's traffic reveals the magnitude of the work which has been accomplished.

The National system is carrying twice as much freight as in the years before the war and nearly four times as many passengers. When it is remembered that we are handling this unprecedented volume of traffic without adding greatly to our equipment, I think we are justified in the pride we take in our accomplishment. In spite of the strain on our resources, in spite of handicaps, there has been no deterioration in service, as compared with other public services and with railways in the other countries affected by the war. Some inconveniences have been unavoidable but these are at a minimum and are rigorously examined with a view to correction.

The ability of the Canadian National to meet the heavy demands made upon it and to do the tremendous job while maintaining its standard of service is due to a number of factors. Over the years, the railway industry has not stood still. It has developed in efficiency and flexibility, continuously seeking to improve both its equipment and its methods. The Canadian National has been well to the front in these developments, and when the war came we were able to take advantage of them to practice an economy in material and effort which enables us to make the fullest possible use of available equipment and supplies. At all times, we have had the loyal and efficient co-operation of our staffs and we owe a real debt of gratitude to the shipping and travelling public. The active collaboration of the shippers has made it possible to take on heavier loads in our cars and to avoid unduly long delays in loading and unloading. The assistance of the Transport Controller and his staff and the admirable response of the public to his appeals and ours has brought about a better distribution, insofar as the time factor is concerned, of passenger traffic.

It is estimated that 82,000,000 tons of revenue freight were handled in 1944 as compared with 80,427,000 tons in 1943, an increase of 2%. The number of passengers carried in 1944 was 36,000,000 as compared with 34,501,000, an increase of 4%.

Gross revenues for 1944 will be on a level with 1943, although with heavy increased expense due to wage increases and a rise in the cost of materials, the net revenue is not as great as it was in 1943. The system is still in a position to turn over a cash surplus to the federal treasury after the payment of interest due to the public and the government.

Twenty-seven new locomotives and ten Diesel switchers were delivered to the company during the year and 4,762 box cars and 1,500 freight cars of other types were received. The company's property, including track and roadbed, and buildings, were well maintained. All the summer hotels remained closed but were protected against deterioration due to vacancy. The eight other hotels wholly operated by the company continued to maintain their traditional high standards, though demands for service were great and difficulties due to shortage of labor and materials not few. It might be interesting to mention here the importance of the function of the dining car department with fewer cars available than in pre-war years, six times as many meals were served on the diners in 1944. The Canadian National Telegraphs transmitted 8,752,000 revenue land line messages and 518,000 revenue cables during the year, many thousands of which were for members of the armed forces at home and overseas.

Communication between the men and women overseas and their families at home has been greatly accelerated by the trans-Atlantic service operated by our associate company, Trans-Canada Air Lines, the four-engined Lancasters making three return flights weekly between Montreal and Scotland.

The Prince Rupert Dry Dock and Shipyard, a subsidiary of the Canadian National, carried on its programme effectively during the year. To date, it has constructed four minesweepers and eleven ten-thousand-ton freighters. Since the outbreak of war, the 20,000-ton floating dry dock has handled 815 ships and repairs have been effected on 2,280 floating craft of all sizes.

National Railways Munitions Limited, a subsidiary, and the company's own shops have continued the manufacture of naval gun barrels, field artillery carriages and naval mountings.

The first concern of the Canadian National system, in all its ramifications, is the winning of the war. At the same time, we are giving close attention to the problems of reconstruction and re-establishment. Research has been made and plans prepared for our post-war programme and the railway is actively co-operating with industry in working out a blueprint for peace. It is too early to go into details, but I might mention, as an example, that we have in mind new types of passenger equipment. The trend after the war will be toward what we call "closed accommodation" in sleeping cars, to such types as roomettes and double bedrooms. Hundreds of thousands of travellers have, through the war, learned, for the first time, the comfort and convenience of travel by night, and we shall be prepared to meet their requirements. We plan new types of coaches and improved dining facilities for travellers. Taking into account the expansion of the smoking habit, we have in mind enlarged facilities for smokers. The railways are alive to the fact that competition with other forms of transport will be accentuated after the war and they may be depended on to keep abreast of the times and provide the service that will insure them their fare share of the traffic.

New Agreement

Large Areas Now Revert To Ethiopia Under Emperor Haile Selassie

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told the Commons that a new agreement between Britain and Ethiopia had been signed, by which certain large areas previously administered by the British revert to Ethiopia.

The agreement, signed at Addis Ababa, does not affect the sovereignty of Emperor Haile Selassie, Eden said.

Eden also gave Britain's official blessing to the Franco-Russian 20-year alliance. He said Britain had made known its stand before the Moscow negotiations began.

He said the pact did not conflict with the plan for a future world security organization, "which all parties are seeking to establish."

The Chinese walking fish moves over dry land from one pool to another by twisting its body in energetic leaps.

Special notice ABOUT COLDS
Now when colds strike, relieve miseries with home-proved Vicks VapoRub that
ACTS 2 WAYS AT ONCE..
It PENETRATES to upper bronchial tubes with soothing medicinal vapors. It STIMULATES chest and back surfaces like a warming poultice. And what's more, it keeps right on working for hours—even while you sleep!
Just rub throat, chest and back with good old Vicks VapoRub at bedtime. VapoRub goes to work instantly to relieve coughing spasms, ease muscular soreness or tightness. It invites restful, comforting sleep. And often by morning most of the misery is gone. Try VapoRub's special 2-way action tonight! When a cold strikes, be sure you use time-tested Vicks VapoRub.

CANADA TAKING MEASURES TO INCREASE IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AFTER WAR

OTTAWA. The trade department is establishing an import division with the chief objective being to increase Canada's imports from the United Kingdom after the war a department official said here.

"One of the clouds on our trade horizon," he said, "is that the United Kingdom is unlikely to have sufficient dollars to buy Canadian goods after the war on anything like the scale she did before the war."

Lord Keynes, British financial expert who recently spent several days in Ottawa conferring with financial and trade officials, is believed to have emphasized that after the war Britain will not be able to buy goods in Canada much in excess of the funds it obtains from Canadian sources.

For example, a rough estimate would be that Britain might receive $50,000,000 from investments still held in Canada after the war.

During the war Canada has repatriated $800,000,000 in Canadian securities, of which $700,000,000 were repatriated by the federal government and the balance by sales on the Canadian market. These securities returned to Canada have reduced British income from Canadian investments by approximately $32,000,000 annually.

Britain also might be expected to get $50,000,000 a year in Canadian funds from shipping and other services rendered to Canadians. British officials anticipate a shortage of shipping after the war and Britain's revenue from that source is unlikely to be as high as before the war.

Canada normally bought around $125,000,000 worth of British goods annually so if that trade continues without increase, the total that Britain will have in Canadian dollars from the three sources will be $225,000,000. In 1937 Britain imported from Canada $402,000,000 and in 1938 $339,000,000.

Trade officials feel that the only way Canada's exports to the mother country can be maintained in post war years will be to find some way to swell Canadian purchases in Britain.

Trade Minister MacKinnon accordingly has decided to break a policy which has held ever since the trade department was established and not only go out after export business but import business as well.

MIGHT BE HIGHER

But No Reduction Seen In Income Tax For 1945

OTTAWA. Informed circles see no prospect of a reduction in the level of income tax in 1945. If there is any prospect of change it will be on the upward side providing it can be brought about without discouraging production and creating a disinclination to overtime work.

In the 1944 budget a substantial change in income tax occurred though the abolition of compulsory savings by reason of not having other regular methods of saving such as life insurance payments.

Generally speaking, Canada's income tax rate bears less heavily on the lowest income groups and more heavily on the moderate and higher income groups than do the taxes in the United States. The Canadian rates are less severe than the British rates throughout almost the entire income range, except in the highest brackets where the British rates are a little easier.

SPECIAL PAYMENT

Will Be Made To Parliament Members For Short Session

OTTAWA. Payment of $200 is to be made to members of parliament for the short session of parliament which was held in December at the height of the conscription crisis, it is learned.

Normally a member receives an indemnity of $4,000 per session of parliament and payment of $200 will be an addition. The special payment, however, will not be made to cabinet ministers who normally receive the parliamentary indemnity in addition to salary.

PROMISE VICTORY

Nazi Leaders Tell German People They Will Eventually Win

LONDON. Nazi leaders, including long-silent Reichs-Marshal Hermann Goering, issued new-years' proclamations through the D.N.B. agency promising war weary Germans that victory is still around the corner.

Goering's proclamation, which was not delivered in person, asserted "it is our duty and our task in the coming year to carry war into the enemy's country."

He said the way will be hard but promised the Germans "one thing is also certain, that we will achieve victory and with it peace under the leadership of Adolf Hitler."

THE NAZI METHOD

LONDON. London newspapers quoted supreme Allied headquarters as saying that a preliminary investigation showed that two German tanks poured a hail of machine gun bullets into 130 defenceless captured Americans after they had been searched for valuables and lined up in an open field.

APPEAL REFUSED

LONDON. The Paris radio said that Adolf Hitler has refused an appeal by Vienna officials to declare Vienna an open city to spare it the fate of Budapest and has ordered the evacuation of the civilian population.

STAGED BIG PARTY

Salvation Army Canadian War Services Entertained Parisian Children

PARIS. Two hundred crippled Parisian children gathered in the assembly hall of "Les Enfants Malades" hospital to enjoy their first Christmas season party for four years staged by the Salvation Army Canadian war services. Another 400 confined to their wards were not forgotten by Father Christmas "Pere Noel" to them who went to each bed handing out gifts and dishes of ice cream.

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

LONDON. Maj.-Gen. L. E. R. Whitby who directs the Army Blood Transfusions service said blood transfusions now give wounded men an 80 per cent. chance of recovery.

British Battle E.L.A.S. In Athens

Here a British tank gives cover to paratroopers as they probe ruins of a dynamited house for hidden mines in Athens, Greece.

CLEAN UP LOANS

Many Manitoba Farmers Paid Off Their Mortgages Last Year

WINNIPEG. Mortgages on Manitoba farms were cleaned up at a greater and faster rate during 1944 than during any previous year. This has been revealed by the Manitoba Farm Loans Association, a loan agency operated by the province.

The agency reports that Manitoba has started the new year with more clear titles to farms than at any time during the past 45 years.

During the 12 months period which ended on April 30, 1944, the Manitoba Farm Loans agency took in a total of almost one and a half million dollars. The previous year receipts totalled only a little over 800 thousand dollars.

GERMAN DEMAND

Relief Ship For Netherlands Must Take Longest Route

NEW YORK. The BBC reports that Germany has demanded that a Swedish Red Cross ship, scheduled to go to the occupied Netherlands, must sail completely around England instead of through the English channel.

The Germans also are reported to have insisted that the ship return to the North sea through the Kiel canal which would add more than one thousand miles to the journey.

LONDON. Prime Minister Churchill has sent to the Shah of Iran a 4-volume set of his "Marlborough," specially bound and tooled with the Shah's crest on front and back covers.

Herbert Morrison At Conference

Herbert Morrison listening to a speech at the Labor Party conference at Westminister central hall, London. Nearly a thousand labor delegates, peers, M.P.'s and parliamentary candidates met in a state of angry bewilderment for this 43rd annual conference.

WOULD OPEN UP TRADE VIA HUDSON BAY BETWEEN THE WEST AND NEWFOUNDLAND

SASKATOON. Possibility of trade via the Hudson Bay between western Canada and Newfoundland and by means of a Newfoundland shipping service with the West Indies and Europe was seen by the executive of the Hudson Bay Route Association at its first meeting here.

The executive heard Sgt. A. H. Bibbey, home on leave from Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, who said marine authorities in the island were greatly interested in exchanging fish for products from the western prairies.

Sgt. Bibbey said the Newfoundland Railway company at St. John's was particularly interested in the trade possibilities of the Hudson Bay route.

"This company, which has 30 or 40 ships and is building nine wooden freighters and refrigerator boats is willing to put its boats into Churchill. They could deliver fresh ocean fish and would take back wheat and flour and possibly milk and eggs."

The demand for milk and eggs in Newfoundland was seen from the prevailing prices, 38 cents a quart for milk and 85 cents a dozen for eggs.

"I have talked to merchants in St. John's and they as well as marine authorities are willing to do anything to keep the Hudson Bay route open," he said.

Sgt. Bibbey said the vessels had extensive coastal operations and trade with the West Indies.

Modern refrigeration plants were being installed in Newfoundland, he said, and as soon as fish were caught the fillets were quickly frozen. This would insure delivery of fresh salt water fish to western Canada.

S. N. McEachern, commissioner of the Saskatoon board of trade, said it would be valuable to have a shipping firm ready to service the Churchill port and deal with the West Indies.

DO NOT COMPLAIN

Only Fault Casualty Clearing Station Has Found In Canadians

WITH THE CANADIANS IN HOLLAND. Canadian soldiers make just about the best patients of any on the western front, in the opinion of officers at a Canadian casualty clearing station of a Winnipeg mobilized unit which has been serving with the First Canadian Army in western Europe since July 7.

They have handled all types of patients, including many hundreds of German soldiers, and have found that the chief trouble with the Canadians when they are casualties is that they do not complain sufficiently.

The doctors, on the other hand, found the vaunted stoicism of the Germans to be largely nonexistant, particularly among ordinary Germans who have not had the special training to which paratroopers and S.S. men are subjected from childhood.

RESIGNING POST

Australian High Commissioner To Canada Is Retiring

CANBERRA. Herbert Evatt, external affairs minister of Australia, announced that Sir William Glasgow, Australian high commissioner to Canada, is retiring. He added a successor will be appointed soon. Sir William has held the Ottawa post since 1940.

Mr. Evatt paid tribute to Sir William and said that the success of the exchange of high commisioners of Canada was due largely to Sir William's "personal qualities" which contributed to the mutual understanding between the two countries.

He pointed out that Sir William was the first high commisioner appointed by Australia to any sister dominion.

STARK EVIDENCE OF HORRORS OF THE GESTAPO INQUISITION DURING BELGIAN OCCUPATION

21ST ARMY HEADQUARTERS. Thumb-screws, hand-presses, shackles and chain hand-cuffs were on display here, stark evidence of the horrors of a Gestapo "inquisition" when British army authorities released a 12-page report on the prison camp the Germans maintained at Breendonk during the occupation of Belgium.

"The idea of torture and mutilation is so abhorrent to the British mind that it is not easy to believe that practices associated with the Spanish inquisition could be carried out in the 20th century by Europeans," the report said.

A volume of horrifying photographs accompanies the report, showing prisoners before arrest, under torture, and finally in the emanciated death-like condition which still characterizes them today.

"Almost all are without teeth, result of the blows they received from German guards.

The report, in addition to dealing with the Breendonk camp, gives accounts of the Tir National in Brussels where nurse Edith Cavell of Britain was executed during the First Great War, and 16 other prisoners, torture or execution depots in Belgium.

Witnesses were quoted as saying approximately 1,600 persons were shot at Tir National during the German occupation and at least 300 shot, 15 hanged and nearly 200 died from starvation and other ill treatment.

Six methods of torture outlined in the document included:

Blows across the face or body, particularly below the belt with a truncheon or cat-o-nine tails;

The victim was bound across a table and thrashed;

The prisoner was hoisted to the ceiling by a pulley and lashed in mid-air, or released to fall on sharp-pointed wooden blocks;

The victim's body was burned with cigar ends;

His fingers were crushed in a medieval-style screw press;

His body was burned with a four-pointed electrical needle instrument.

Women prisoners also were tortured, the document continued, and one witness said she was completely nude while these devices were applied in an attempt to wrest information from her.

At Breendonk 48 prisoners were jammed into rooms 42 feet long, 21 wide and 13 feet high, with blue-painted windows at each end of a series of triple-decker bunks and a few small tables and stools.

There also were iron-barred cells six feet eight inches by four feet five inches equipped with wall shackles.

An ex-prisoner, an Austrian doctor, said more than 500 men died during three years behind the walls of grim, moated Breendonk prison, including 300 shot, 15 hanged and nearly 200 from starvation diet and other ill treatment.

From the opening of Breendonk in 1940 until the Germans fled in 1944, the document said, "it was quite common for a prisoner to lose 50 to 55 pounds after being in camp three months."

Dinner At The Beaver Club

—Canadian Army - WIB Radiophoto.

The Right Hon. Vincent Massey and Mrs. Massey attend Christmas dinner at Beaver Club, London. High Commissioner is seen here chatting with (left to right) Cpl. T. M. Hedley, Oak River, Man. and L-Cpl. A. E. McCabe, Prairie River, Sask. Both soldiers are of the Provost Corps.

SMALL LAND HOLDINGS ALL ACROSS CANADA ARE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR VETERANS

OTTAWA. About 3,000 small land holdings across Canada are to be made available this year for veterans already discharged, Veterans Minister Mackenzie said in a statement here.

It is planned if possible to construct new homes on these holdings during the year and a limited number of full time farming units will be released in 1945 to meet the need of exceptional cases.

Large scale settlement under the Veterans' Land Act has not been previously attempted because farm machinery and seasoned lumber have been in short supply. In addition there was a desire to protect the interests of the men who will be eligible for the benefits of the act but who are still overseas.

Mr. Mackenzie said increased supplies would become available this year and a substantial number of men who have seen service in an actual theatre of war have been or are being discharged to civil life. Although the settlement program will be speeded up this year a large part of the acreage required for soldier settlement will be held in reserve for men still overseas.

The act provides grants to full-time farmers who are qualified for such an undertaking and to city and other workers who wish a home on a small acreage of land outside the high taxation area. Assistance also is available to commercial fishermen who want to operate small land holdings in conjunction with their fishing business.

BUYING SWISS GOODS

BERNE. A group of United States army officers has visited Switzerland recently to negotiate the purchase of watches, typewriters and other Swiss manufactures for American forces in France, it is learned on good authority. 2602

Complete Record And Full History Of Soldiers Kept From The Moment Of Enlistment

IF THE Canadian Army ever decided to go into the book business and publish biographies of its some 750,000 personnel, it would have little trouble correlating the facts. For the Army knows more about its members than sometimes the soldiers do themselves.

From the moment of enlistment, when the recruit fills out a form denominated as "MFM 2" in which he or she gives the full history of life to date—place and date of birth, religion, education, employment history, etc., to the day of discharge or demobilization, when the final documents are filed away there is a complete record of one and every soldier's life.

The Army could tell you what their soldier's like to do with their spare time. What their ambitions are. How long they've been married. How they react to authority, discipline, punishment or making more money. The Army could whisper too, if it wished to do so, if the soldier likes to gamble, drink or run around. But, of course, all this data is confidential, and is used only for the purpose of allocating personnel where they may best be of most value to the concentrated war effort.

To keep these miniature biographies up-to-date, Army Examiners talk to soldiers from time to time. A recruit meets the Examiner upon enlistment, upon the completion of basic training and also advanced training. The soldier's changing viewpoint, for change it does, is recorded, and is not overlooked in placing him or her in one of the various military jobs.

Occasionally, too, soldiers are requested to fill out questionnaires in which the questions pertain to education, civil employment, personal history, etc. Here is a typical brief history of one soldier: "Lived in B.C. until 1930. Attended Normal College there and taught school. Came to Toronto in 1930. Taught at——College until June, 1937. Taught in Ontario public schools until October, 1941. Left to join the Navy, but was rejected. Worked in a war plant until September, 1942. Here was successively, operator, employe instructor, operating inspector and personnel manager. The company sent me to the Personnel Administration Course given by the Department of Labor. I would like to continue work in Personnel Administration after the war, with rehabilitation of service personnel if possible. Am also in hope of taking a course in this subject at some university."

The soldier, too, paradoxically enough, knows more about himself or herself, by the Army's record procedure. In the pocket of each soldier is a small book known as Militia Book M.1, or Soldier's Service and Pay Book.

This little volume will tell the warrior at a glance the exact day of enlistment, how many years he or she went to school, what exact day promotion was received or trade test passed. It tells, too, the date they last had innoculation, how many brothers and sisters they have and which is the oldest, their medical classification at present—and a complete record of changes with dates of such alterations.

Prefer Blackout

London Motorists Lay Partial Lighting Makes Driving Much Harder

One of the queer little sidelights of the war is that London motorists, after five years of blackout, say they don't like the recently authorized increase in the amount of lighting on the streets.

Bus drivers, truck drivers, cabbies and the private motorists—what there is of them—almost unanimously condemn the new "moonlighting" as increasing the danger of driving at night.

Pin-point street lamps used to provide so-called "starlighting". To all intents and purposes that meant no light at all. But motorists got used to finding their way around with dim headlamps, and at least the darkness was uniform.

Now the greater London area is a patchwork of light and dark. Some streets have the new moonlighting or at least "starlighting plus." Others still are starlit. And even moonlighting consists only of pools of brightness under the widely-separated street lamps and darkness between.

Professional drivers say their eyes can't attune themselves quickly enough to the changes in lighting intensity and that driving in built up areas is 100 per cent. more hazardous than in the full blackout.

Traffic deaths have increased since the moonlighting was introduced, with pedestrians the principal victims.

Billiard Expert

Canadian Pacific Dining Car Steward Wins Fame

Harry Revoy, of Winnipeg, is widely known as a Canadian Pacific Railway dining car steward operating for the most part between Winnipeg and Calgary. His suave accommodating manner is in the best tradition of the service he has represented as waiter and steward for the past 34 years, yet sports fans hail him as one of the Dominion's really great billiardists.

His uncanny skill with the cue has stamped him as one of the greatest authorities on the game of English billiards in the country today, and perhaps as the best all-round master of the three ball game in Canadian amateur circles.

Harry Revoy has won the Manitoba amateur title and the British Columbia crown, which he still holds, at least ten times during the past 27 years when he has been clicking the ivories on green tables all over Canada. "I have played and beaten all professionals and amateurs in Winnipeg," said the Manitoba cue ace, "and with the possible exception of Tom Tothill, now residing in Vancouver, I consider myself the best billiardist in Canada."

The high-strung, nervous Winnipeg steward leaped into sports page prominence recently when he rolled up three new Canadian records which seem destined to last for some time.

At the LaSalle parlors in Winnipeg during December, Harry scored 1,000 points in the extraordinary short space of two hours and 35 minutes, averaging 71.6 points in 14 visits to the table. Featuring his great performance was a stupendous break of 198 while on two other occasions he passed the 100 mark, shooting 130 and 111.

Billiards have proved an interesting and stimulating avocation for the popular dining car steward. He thinks that his game, like good wine, is improving with age and looks forward confidently, at 52 years of age, to even better table performance in the future.

Harry Revoy started clicking the ivory balls around when he was 25 years of age, disproving the old theory that those who would master games of skill must start in their formative childhood years. He went for the game whole-heartedly, and through constant play and practice, has developed his skill to an amazing peak.

Like other sports enthusiasts, Harry has his idol, Walter Lindrum, the Australian cue star, who in Harry's book is "the acme of perfection" and his ambition is to cross the ocean to participate in the British Empire amateur billiards championships. "That, however, comes under the head of post-war plans," he added.

Harry has been with the Canadian Pacific dining car department since 1919, but managed through his billiard career to pack hours of practice into the free time which his job allowed him. At many western cities where he laid over he tried his skill, but for the greater part his practice and play has been in Winnipeg and Vancouver.

"My 27 years of playing, practicing and studying the game," he said, "have proved fruitful, and my talents are slowly ripening so that my last game saw me making breaks of 198, 130 and 111. That was my finest effort in the 27 years, but I've still got a long way to go and I will improve."

An automobile uses 50 per cent. less gas at 50 miles an hour than it does at 60 miles per hour.

Big Game Species In Canada's National Parks

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOATS
Jasper National Park, Alberta, Canada.

One of the primary purposes of Canada's national parks is to afford sanctuary for wildlife—large or small, furred or feathered. Among the big game animals protected in these parks are Rocky Mountain (bighorn) sheep, Rocky Mountain goats, buffalo, elk, moose, caribou and other deer; in fact most of Canada's big game species find sanctuary in the national parks.

Elk Island National Park in Alberta has, since the closing of Buffalo Park at Wainwright in the same province, become the home of the plains buffalo. More than a thousand fine, healthy animals roam inside this 50-square-mile enclosure of luscious pastures, fresh lakes and abundant shade trees. Other big game species in this park include 500 elk and a smaller number of mule deer and moose.

Wood Buffalo Park, lying partly in Alberta and partly in the Northwest Territories has herds of both wood and plains buffalo, but because of the vast area which it covers (more than 17,000 square miles) and its extensive forests, it is difficult to make an accurate estimate of the size of these herds. Observations made by park wardens and scientific investigators on summer and winter ranges place the total at about 9,000 head.

Canada's mountain playgrounds—Banff, Jasper, Kootenay, Mount Revelstoke, Yoho, Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks—abound with big game. Perhaps the most common species are Rocky Mountain sheep and Rocky Mountain goats. The sheep are not nearly so bashful as the goats. The latter rarely give an opportunity to the average "camera-hunter", and one must know something of the haunts and habits of these wily animals to get a good "close-up" for the snapshot album.

Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan and Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba serve as sanctuaries for big game indigenous to the prairie regions. Moose, elk, woodland caribou, and other deer are found in these parks and there is a small enclosure of plains buffalo near Audy Lake in Riding Mountain Park.

The establishment of Cape Highlands National Park in Nova Scotia will no doubt result in the restoration of big game once numerous in that region.

The presence of big game animals in Canada's national parks is not only a major tourist attraction but it demonstrates the desire of the Canadian people to protect all wildlife species, large or small, from the fate of extirpation which overtook the wild pigeon and the wild turkey. As long as these parks are maintained, wild creatures will find sanctuary in them and Canada will continue to possess some of the finest natural museums of wildlife in the world.

British Submarines

Sink Many Japanese Craft While Operating In Far Eastern Waters

Since the beginning of 1944, H.M. submarines operating in Far Eastern waters have sunk one Japanese cruiser, and 157 other ships ranging from large supply vessels to anti-submarine craft. An enemy aircraft carrier was torpedoed and believed to have been sunk, another cruiser was hit by torpedoes, 31 other ships of various sizes have been damaged and several of H.M. submarines have also carried out a number of bombardments against enemy shore installations.

Fewer Bicycles

Canadian Production For 1943 Was Lowest In Nine Years

No wonder it's hard to get bicycles. Along with the increased demand because of gas rationing and greater requirements for messenger and delivery services, newly published official statistics reveal that Canadian production of cycles was the lowest since 1935. Under wartime restrictions to conserve metals and labor, output amounted to only 47,673 compared with 72,120 in 1942. And production is still limited.—Montreal Gazette.

The word curfew is taken from the French words, couvre-feu, meaning cover the fire.

Buy War Savings Stamps regularly.

Remarkable Mascot

Wire-Haired Terrier Brought Good Luck To Merchant Ship

Taking her turn on watch when at sea and rousing the crew from sleep in the mornings, a small wire-haired terrier is the most remarkable mascot in the Merchant Navy. She is "Sussie", mascot of the S.S. Whitstable. When the Whitstable is in port, the terrier stands guard by the gangway and gives warning of the approach of strangers.

At sea, as her watch on deck ends, she goes below and awakens the relief watch. Then she "turns in," her bunk being in the Master's cabin.

Sussie likes her trips ashore, but she never overstays her leave. The crew swear by her, for, since she came aboard, they have met no mines, U-boats, or aircraft, and have had only good weather.—British Information Services.

Absand Oils

Full Operation Of Refinery Would Produce 600 Barrels A Day

It was reported at Edmonton that the initial test run of the Absand Oils Limited refinery at Fort McMurray was completed December 24.

G. B. Webster, vice-president and managing director, said early in December the plant was about to swing into a "stream" output of 450 barrels a day and that full operation of the refinery would produce 600 barrels a day.

Joyous Shouts Of Forgotten Women Of France

When the American Seventh Army took the town of Haguenau, last important Alsatian town before the German border, they found 300 French women in the town jail. They had been imprisoned by the Germans for political offences. Some had been in durance for two years. On liberation by the Americans, the women became almost hysterical with joy. The above photo was made as they rushed through the jail gate. When leaving the town in a hurry before the advancing Americans, the Germans apparently forgot all about the women.

Commonwealth Air Training Plan Has Been Drastically Curtailed To Meet Conditions

THE roar of airplane motors in Canadian skies was reduced to a buzz in 1944 as the big British Commonwealth Air Training Plan that made the nation the "airdrome of democracy" was drastically curtailed and a partial R.C.A.F. demobilization plan established.

The plan will not be extended after its expiry date, March 31, 1945, when a shadow plan will be installed. Previously scores of air schools and emergency landing fields were closed, training commands were amalgamated, the air council reduced and 4,200 potential trainees were transferred to the army.

Busy in the battle skies throughout the world, the R.C.A.F. began 1944 with a new chief of air staff—Air Marshal Robt. Leckie. He got his appointment Jan. 1, two months after taking over the responsibilities when Air Marshal L. S. Breadner went to Britain to become overseas chief.

Announcing the curtailment program in November, Maj. Power said the air plan was almost at gaining air supremacy in every theatre of war and he added, "this purpose has been accomplished." When the plan ends March 31—a total of 224,296 trained aircrew will have graduated from Canadian flying fields.

He explained the need for curtailment was based on a huge surplus of aircrew built up by a plan that was gauged on higher casualties than were actually suffered and the unpredictable course of the war.

Meanwhile an air mission returned from a study of Pacific war theatre conditions and it is widely reported that between 15 and 20 of the force's 45 overseas squadrons will be sent against Japan on a re-voluntary basis when the war in Europe is over. Other squadrons—possibly made up of R.C.A.F. men in the R.A.F.—may stay in Europe to co-operate with occupational forces.

One feature of the home organization was the establishment of a Northwest Air Command to take over the staging route over the northwest corner of the Dominion and which in the words of Maj. Power, is likely to have increasing importance as Pacific commitments are assumed.

Men now being demobilized—roughly on a first-in first-out basis—are not barred from application into the post-war R.C.A.F., the composition of which will not be decided for at least a year.

The year-end found hundreds of men being demobilized, many of them returning from overseas operational tours. Many of the returning flying personnel are taking over administration jobs from non-flying men released from the service, as fewer and fewer training craft take the air.

With about 10,000 aircrew in the training stream before Nov. 7 headed for a civilian reserve when they graduate, and recent graduates being demobilized, it has been said officially that only a smattering of aircrew in operational training units and debarkation depots will go overseas in future.

The amalgamation saw No. 2 training command at Winnipeg and No. 4 at Calgary unite on a greatly reduced scale as No. 2 Air Command with headquarters at Moose Jaw, Sask. No. 1 at Toronto and No. 3 at Montreal, greatly curtailed, will join early this year as No. 1 Air Command with headquarters at Trenton, Ont.

Lots Of Eggs

Canada Hopes To Provide Britain With 180,000,000 Eggs Next Fall

Agriculture Department officials said that next fall Canada hopes to provide the United Kingdom with 180,000,000 fresh eggs, in what used to be the season when Canadians themselves were drawing on storage stocks.

They estimated that surplus 1944 fall production to be bought by the special products board will be more than 70,000,000 eggs. They termed "one of Canada's most notable agricultural achievements of the war" the production increases in seasons of low production in the past.

These increases have made Canadian consumers independent of storage eggs, and none have been stored for domestic consumption for four years.

ELECTIONS IN ITALY

The newly organized Italian cabinet decided to hold elections throughout liberated Italy next spring regardless of whether northern Italy is liberated. The elections will be the first free ones held in Italy for 24 years.

So elaborate are the cakes made at one New York shop that blueprints are drawn for them.

Invented By Accident

English Chemist Got Idea For Linoleum 100 Years Ago

Nearly 100 years ago linoleum was discovered or more properly invented by accident.

An English chemist, Frederick Walton, was engaged in experiments to improve the floor coverings of those days. One day he absent-mindedly lifted a piece of dry paint from the top of an open can. All at once he realized that this lump of dried paint had possibilities. Looking into the matter more carefully, the chemist found the substance was nothing more or less than linseed oil exposed to air. That was the beginning of linoleum.

Nowadays, after linseed oil is oxidized, it is mixed in immense cauldrons. Cork and color pigments are added. When the mixture becomes a fluffy, soft mass, it is poured into a base where immense rollers finish the job. This "green" linoleum is hung up in tightly sealed rooms for several weeks to age at 150 degrees Fahrenheit. It eventually comes out of retirement as an attractive floor covering.

Experts say that the life of linoleum can be extended by keeping the surface protected with a thin coat of wax. When the floor is dirty it should be washed with a mop or floor cloth wrung out of a mild soapy solution, never with a harsh soap or scouring powder.

Daily care should consist of dusting with an untreated mop.

Salt Bed

Recent Find Has Been Made In The Vermilion Area

Mines Minister N. E. Tanner of Alberta, said a spurt in the demand for acreage for development purposes has been caused by the recent strike of a 400-foot deep salt bed in the Vermilion area. Keen interest was being shown in the salt possibilities of the region, he said.

The strike was made at the Vermilion Consolidated Oil Co. well when the drill reached a depth of 3,481 feet. Salt showings continued to 3,900 feet.

Beginner's Crochet

7323

Alice Brooks

Fascinator's the word when you wear it over your head but it's just as fascinating worn as a shawl. Jiffy crocheted in knitting worsted.

Jiffy crochet that suits teen age to Grandma. It's a beginner's crochet. Pattern 7323 has instructions for fascinator stitches.

To obtain this pattern send twenty cents in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) to Household Arts Department, Winnipeg Newspaper Union, 175 McDermot Avenue E., Winnipeg, Man. Be sure to write plainly your Name, Address and Pattern Number. Because of the slowness of the mails delivery of our patterns may take a few days longer than usual.

THE SOFT ANSWER

Rufus Choate one day forgot himself to the extent of asking the forbidden question. He inquired a lady's age. "Why do you wish to know that?" icily demanded the object of his curiosity. "Dear lady," the wily diplomat replied, "I merely wanted to know at what age a woman is most fascinating."

All the blood in your body has to go through your lungs 2,000 times each day. 2603

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Phone 6 — P.O. Drawer 691

SHIPPING DATE—The Elkhorn Co-Operative Livestock Shipping Association will ship again on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Those who wish to take advantage of this shipment are requested to notify the undersigned at once.
J. BAJUS, Shipper.

JAMES DUNKIN
OPTOMETRIST
Eyes Examined
BRANDON - MAN.

Elkhorn and District Honor Roll

Shepherd, Myrtle
Birchall, Betty
Barr, Mrgaret
Feader, Lois M.
Stonehouse, Mary
Allison, Wm.
Anderson, L. J.
Armstrong, F. J.
Armstrong, D. M.
Asseltine, Wm.
Angus, Lyle
★Brennand, Geo.
Bartley, Ray
Baskerville, J.
Bates, P. A.
Bickerton, A. B.
Bickerton, R. T.
Birchall, Louis
Bliss, R. J.
Bliss, P. C.
Bliss, P. J.
Bolam, E. R.
Bolam, J. J. H.
Bowering, F.
Bratten, R. S.
Brennan, A. J.
Bratten, W.
Bratten, H. E.
Bratten, J. A.
Baskerville, C.
Boomhower, J.
Bowering, N. J.
Bowering, S. G.
Bowering, L. P.
Banister, R. P.
Black, John
Black, Robt.
Boomhower, F. G.
Boyce, Irvin
Canart, G. M.
Chown, E.
Cole, T.
Crosby, C. S.
Crosby, C. K.
Crosby, Flt. Sgt.
Conquergood, Howard
Conquergood, Art.
Conquergood, Ernest
Conquergood, Eldon
Conquergood, D. L.
Cowan, Victor
★Duxbury, Thomas
★Duke, Andrew S.
Duke, A. F.
Duke, D. S.
Duke, R. W.
Duke, A. S.
Demanski, Walter
Duxbury, J. B.
Duxbury, O. B.
Dunbar, Robert
Denyes, A. H.
Donald Dixon
Ehrich, E. W.
Ehrich, O. C.
Erich, Leonard
Franklin, Douglas
Fordyce, Chas.
Francis, W.
Franklin, Maurice
Freer, S.
Freeman, Douglas
Feader, W. M.
Feader, L. R.
Gardner, G.
Gardner, R.
D. P. Golding (hon. dis.)
Golding, Pat.
Grimshaw, J.
Grimshaw, Jas. Jr.
George, Albert
Gatey, Allan
Gilbart, Lloyd
Hartley, D.
Hartley, G.
Hartley, J. T.
Heritage, H. A. R.
Hafstein, Bud
Hennan, Arnold
Hennan, Max
Irving, G. H.
★Jenner, Jack
Johnson, S. E.
Johnson, B.
Jenner, F. T.
Johnson, R.
Johnson, C. H.
Jones, Gordon
Jones, Bert
Johnston, Doug.
Jaffray, R. W.
Kraft, E. M.
Kersey, H. M.
Lamb, W. C.
Lemon, Don.
Levitt, Fred.
Loewen, J.
Lund, Walter
Lund, G.
Lund, W. N.
Lund, B.
Lund, W. O.
Lund, K. L.
Lasek, John
Leslie, C. W.
Leslie, L. S.
Leslie, R. F.
Lasek, James
Leslie, A. C.
★McDonald, Joffre
★Mallett, Ronald
McDougall, L.
McDonald, C.
Milroy, G.
Miller, William
Mitchell, L. A.
Mitchell, R. D.
Mulligan, C. L.
Montgomery, Dan.
Manningway, H.
Mitchell, O.
Mallett, Clifford
Middleton, Kenneth L.
Nichols, Stan.
Nelson, John
Norris, J. J.
Northcut, Robt.
Nylen, C.
Nylen, T.
Nichol, John
Ogilvie, D.
Paddock, C.
Parsons, E.
Partridge, P.
Pascoe, G.
Pearson, R.
Pitman, G. A.
Popek, John
Popek, Frank
Popek, M.
Poston, Ralph
Popek, Mike
Partridge, Peter
Rees, T. J.
Richardson, Cliff
Robertson, Geo.
Robertson, J.
Robertson, C. A.
Rowan, Gordon
Rozok, L.
★Sinclair, Lloyd
Searle, Fred.
Stenhouse, W. J.
Sterling, E. E.
Stinson, M.
Shoemaker, L.
Snyder, Roy
Soder, B. G.
Soder, E. L.
Snyder, Morris
★Turner, Ernie
Thompson, J.
Williams, Frank
★ Williams, G.
Watson, A.
Waller, Pitt de Warren
Waller, J. H.
Webster, Harold
White, F. E.
Wilcox, Leroy
Weldon, Leslie E.
Will, Chas.
Weldon, Lorne
Woodford, W. J.
Warnock, R. A.
Wickham, R. S.
Wickham, Frank
Walker, Gordon
Wellox, E. A.
Walker, J. P.
Will, Douglas
Chas. Will Jr. (hon. dis)
Williams, Ken., Jr.

★ These gave their all.

The Elkhorn Mercury
F. C. Norris, Publisher and Proprietor
Member C.W.N.A.

Thursday, January , 1945

Local Notes

Mary Norris returned to Winnipeg on Friday.

FOR SALE—Four wheeled trailer, in good condition. $40.00. Apply to—
Mrs. M. Lamb.

Mr. S. Jones, of Alberta, is the guest of his mother, sister, Mrs. W. Phillips and Waldo.

Miss Helen Gregg returned to Portage Friday, after visiting New Year's with her sister, Mrs. Davidson, and Harold.

The United Circle announces a 25c Tea and Sale of Home Cooking to be held in the rest room, Saturday, Feb. 10th.

Curling is underway, but the chilliness made the start very "hit and miss." The Misses, though, are through. Cold, too, perhaps.

The postponed meeting of St. Marks' W. A. will be held at 3 o'clock on Wednesday, Jan. 17th, in the church room. Hostesses, Mesdames Francis and Freeman.

IMPOUNDED on sec. 36-11-29, Wallace Municipality, Jan. 6th, 1945, fifteen horses (nine bays, four blacks and two greys.
George E. Francis,
Poundkeeper.

A disastrous fire struck the farm of Mr. E. A. R. Bates, Saturday, Jan. 6th. It is unofficially reported the loss included 1000 bush. of oats, tractor and the shed in which they were housed. Ernie's many acquaintances are mighty sorry to learn of his serious loss.

NEW TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES—Subscribers to the Wallace Telephone System may call at the Mercury office for their new 1945 directories.

HORSE SHIPMENT to Eastern Canada, Feb. 26. Animals must be from 1400 to 1700 lbs. and 3 to 12 years old. Please notify the undersigned promptly if you desire to ship.
J. BAJUS, Shipper,
Elkhorn Horse Marketing Assoc.

"TIME BOMBS"

People are like elevators. We lift or lower others to the level we are on.

War, like charity, begins at home. And must end there is we want peace to last.

Nothing ruins the truth like stretching it.

Too many judge right from wrong on the basis of which pays best.

Our heads can only make excuses for what's lacking in our hearts.

We need expanding friendships in this contracting world.

Notice to Creditors

In the matter of the estate of HORACE FREDERICK GERALD DAY, late of the Rural Municipality of Wallace, Province of Manitoba, Farmer, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned, at his office in the Town of Virden, in the Province of Manitoba, on or before the 31st day of January A.D. 1945.

Dated at the Town of Virden, in the Province of Manitoba, this 2nd day of January, A.D. 1945
JOHN PRITCHARD,
Solicitor for Ada Maud Day,
*Executrix.

WILLIAM H. LEE
FUNERAL DIRECTOR & LICENSED EMBALMER
Efficient & Courteous Service
ELKHORN
Phones:
Day 6 Night 36

Buy War Savings Stamps

A BUNDLE OF SPEECHES

(Continued from front page

Canada. But many of them lack the money and can not get it, no matter what tax rates they enforce. If the Dominion retires from the income tax field some of the richer provinces could get large revenues from this source; but in that case the Dominion would have to finance the whole huge federal budget on indirect revenues, sales taxes, in fact, which are economically unsound and socially unjust to the poor and, in such a case, would make retail prices impossible. On the other hand, says Mr. Garson, if the Dominion is to carry the cost of social reforms it must remain in the income tax field.

* * *

Certainly the provinces can levy income taxes—on top of the federal taxes. If so, the provincial governments had better take to the woods, pursued by a band of ragged and starving taxpayers. The only way out, says Mr. Garson, is some equivalent or variant of the Rowell-Sirois plan.

But few Canadians are excited about this matter. It is too complicated and dull. They don't stop to think that it involves their pocketbooks, the health services needed by their families and ultimately their jobs.

Mr. Garson is trying, very patiently, to persuade the prairie people of these things, and he has gone a long way; whereas in British Columbia, bloated by a temporary boom and unable to look beyond next Thursday, we have almost forgotten what it is to be poor as we were in the thirties.

Perhaps a prime minister of Canada ought to come out of the prairies where they know poverty, know Canada's dependence on world trade and know also that we can't have prosperity merely by C.C.F. slogans or by bawling about provincial autonomy.

Lake Winnipeg Best Caught

FISH

40lbs. MULLETS at 4c per lb.	$1.60
30lbs. JACKS at 10c per lb.	$3.00
20lbs. Tullibees at 8c per lb.	$1.60
10lbs Pickerel at 15c per lb.	$1.50
100lbs. for	$7.70

25 lb. Carton Boneless and Sealed

5lb. JACKS for	$1.00
5lb. PICKEREL for	$1.50
5lb TULLIBEES for	$1.00
10lb MULLETS for	$2.00
25lbs. for	$5.50

All Fish Prepaid If not satisfactory will make refunds.

Brodsky Bros.
Dauphin River,
c o GYPSUMVILLE, Man.

Thank God for... Your Sight
by helping those who are blind.
Buy BLINDCRAFT BROOMS
from your local merchant
MADE BY THE BLIND AT THE
Canadian National Institute for the Blind
WINNIPEG

STADIUM NOTES

Whist Drives and Dances featuring old-time and modern numbers will commence in Elkhorn Stadium on Wednesday, January 10th and be on every two weeks thereafter on Wednesday nights. Prizes will be awarded each night to ladies and gentlemen holding high scores and low scores. At the end of the season a Grand Aggregate award will go to each lady and gentleman who tops the season's scoring record. It is estimated that the series of games will terminate about April 1st. This should be a very interesting form of entertainment for both young and old. LET'S MAKE THIS A WORTH - WHILE COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER for the winter months.

ADVERTISERS—we positively cannot change advertisements for the current week's issue unless we receive your copy up until or before Tuesday of each week.

THE WAY I SEE IT-

WHEN JOE SAID: "F'R THE LAND'S SAKE WHY BUY ANOTHER BOND?" I SAID: "F'R THE LAND'S SAKE!"

Buy Victory Bonds"

NOTICE
WALLACE TELEPHONE SYSTEM
Warning!

Any person or persons breaking, injuring, defacing or interfering with, or otherwise damaging any part of the Wallace Telephone System is liable to a severe penalty.

Instances have occurred where poles or wire have been taken from this system. No such acts must be committed, whether from a used or unused line. Even telephone poles and wire lying on the ground must not be interfered with, either old or new. Any person doing so in future will be prosecuted according to law.
E. ANDERSON.

Elkhorn Meat Market

Choice Cuts of Beef and Pork Cooked Meats
—ALSO—
Fresh & Cured Fish

Ken G. Lidster
Butcher and Livestock Dealer
Phone 3 - ELKHORN

BUY WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Manitoba Department of Agriculture and Immigration

Test Sprouted Grain for Germination

Sprouted Grain is Common on Many Farms
Tests Reveal 30% —50% Reduction in Germination

Farmers are Urged To:
Test Seed for Germination Now.
If Germination is Low Replace with Sound Grain of High Quality by:
1. Exchanging Locally with Neighbors;
2. Purchasing Registered or Certified Seed through the Manitoba Crop Improvement Association. All Elevator Agents have Price Lists and Order Forms.

D. L. CAMPBELL,
Minister of Agriculture and Immigration.

January, 1945

C.W.A.C.

Recruiting Office

IN

Downtown Winnipeg

IS NOW LOCATED IN

HURON AND ERIE BUILDING
Portage Avenue, at Fort Street

You can also secure information about joining the Canadian Women's Army Corps from your local C.W.A.C. Recruiting Representative

OR

Write today for your free copy of the colorful "CWAC" Digest to

District Recruiting Office M.D. 10
Building 14, Fort Osborne Barracks
Winnipeg, Manitoba

WORLD HAPPENINGS BRIEFLY TOLD

The first election for the Finnish parliament since the start of war will be held next March 17 and 18.

The Office of Civilian Defense at Washington, has issued instructions for defence against robot bomb and rocket bomb attacks.

Miss Lucy Chittenden has been a conductor for a Kent bus company since 1918 and has never been absent from duty.

Dr. Cyril James, principal and vice-chancellor of McGill University, announced that academic recognition will be given by the University for service overseas.

Queen Mary and the Princess Royal took their own shopping bags, paper and string when they did their Christmas shopping at Bath, England.

A small scale working model of the Czecho Slovakian designed Bren gun has been presented to the King by the Czecho Slovak Ambassador and Czechs at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Crystal palace, glass-domed auditorium in South London which was destroyed by fire several years ago, will be restored after the war at a cost of approximately $4,500,000.

The London, Midland and Scottish Railway ran 17 special trains to carry more than 100,000 bags of prisoner-of-war parcels to a port for shipment.

The King has approved a baronetcy of the United Kingdom for Sir Frank Newsom-Smith on his retirement from the office of Lord Mayor of London.

Enjoy Their Work

Woman Bargees Doing Fine Job On Canals In Britain

Britain has a vast network of canals which are playing an important part in solving wartime transport difficulties. British government officials in charge of this form of transport have recently added women to the payroll.

Bronzed, athletic girls are acting as steerers, mates and crew of canal craft and they have enthusiastically knuckled down to a hard manual job despite its rigors and restrictions. Six women's crews have taken over boats so far, and the British ministry of war transport has called for more volunteers to help maintain Britain's inland transport services.

The long, slim open boats pass along the lock-studded willow-lined canals in pairs, each manned by a crew of three women. Each trip they make over the 140-mile stretch of the Grand Union canal moves 25 tons of war material from London to the industrial Midlands. The trip takes a week each way, and for the women bargees, it is hard work with never a let-up, 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

The wartime trained women are enthusiastic about the welcome they receive from the permanent canal community. "The canal folk are grand," one of the girls said. "We'll be sorry to say good-bye to them when peace comes and our boating days are over."

REMOVE CARGO

Work of removing cargo from a freighter aground in Saint John harbor since November 24 will continue perhaps until the end of March, officials said. Attempts to salvage the vessel must await removal of the cargo.

The springs at Bath, England, were the centre of a Roman resort city developed during the first four centuries A.D.

Best Amateur Billiardist

Whether on the linen-draped tables of the Canadian Pacific Railway dining cars in which he runs as steward or on green baize topped billiard tables, Harry Revoy, of Winnipeg, is an acknowledged master. Regarded as the best billiardist in Canadian amateur circles, ten times holder of the Manitoba and British Columbia titles, Harry recently broke into sports page headlines in the Manitoba capital for three new records. In the first place he rolled up a score of 1,000 points in the astonishing short space of two hours and 35 minutes, averaging 71.6 points for 14 visits to the table. In the second place he scored one stupendous break of 198 points, and on two other occasions passed the 100-mark, scoring 130 and 111.

Clever Refugees

Netherlanders Hid Successfully From Nazis For Over A Year

In a straw hut in the centre of a pine forest, somewhere in Holland, a valliant band of Netherlanders hid successfully from the German conquerors of their country for more than a year.

German soldiers sometimes passed within a few feet of their sentry boxes. The refugees themselves took and held prisoners in the compound of their camp. In the last few days before the liberation of this part of Holland, they sallied forth to commit acts of sabotage against the harassed Germans.

A young civil servant, one of the founders of the camp, guided them through mud-choked back yards and widing forest trails to the hut in the pine trees. It seemed small, like a hut a woodman might use to store his tools.

Inside it proved to be large, comfortable, with three wings.

"Here I cooked," said the young Hollander as he pointed to the rusted stove and tables. Another wing was a dormitory, with 24 bunks of rough hewn pine wood. All the furniture was hand hewn by the men.

The third wing was a lounge, furnished with rustic furniture the men in hiding had made themselves.

In the courtyard behind the hut was another, a smaller hut. This was the prison where eight pro-Nazi Netherlanders were kept prisoner.

One, two at a time they had been seized and carried to the forest hideout. They didn't even know where they were until the day of liberation when they were handed over to the Netherlands military administration.

The story of the camp in the pines is a story full of gaps that cannot yet be completed. All that can be told about these men is that they hid chiefly, to escape the Gestapo, or to escape being sent as slave laborers into Germany.

Their daily life was a fight not only to remain hidden, but to keep their moral equilibrium.

One a sport field screened by trees they held sports meets.

Every man stood guard duty, two hours on, four off.

A farmer who lives perhaps a mile from the hideout provided the refugees with food and equipment.

Power for the radio and the field telephone was supplied by a dynamo operated by a static bicycle which the prisoners pedalled in shifts.

Buy War Savings Stamps regularly.

Good Place To Live

People In New Brunswick Manage To Attain Great Ages

The Saint John Telegraph-Journal says: Perhaps the healthful New Brunswick climate has something to do with it. We aren't sure. But we are sure that if you want to live to be a hundred years old you have a better chance in this than in other provinces.

We say that because so many people in this part of the country do manage to attain great ages. There was one of our citizens, for instance, who took a new job as harbormaster of Richibucto on his 100th birthday and celebrated his 104th birthday by playing his fiddle at a dance.

We can boast the oldest lighthouse keeper, the oldest active stream-driver (he's driven logs every spring for 55 years).

HALIFAX SQUADRON

Early in 1943 a unit, the nucleus of which was formed of Halifax aircraft, was formed for the purpose of dropping supplies to Europe's resistance movements. From May 1943 up to November 1944 this squadron had made 2,679 sorties, of which 1,688 have been successful, they have dropped 5,064 tons of supplies and 705 men.

In 1871, Canada's rural inhabitants out-numbered the urban dwellers by more than 2,000,000.

Loyal To Britain

Ulster Gave Vital Protection To Convoys After France Fell

In an address in Toronto Sir Ernest Cooper said, that for the loyalty of Northern Ireland, Britain would have been confronted with slavery and death. Sir Ernest Cooper quoted Winston Churchill as having written in 1943. Speaking to the Empire Club in Toronto on "The Strategic Position of Ulster" Sir Ernest, a native of Clinton, Ont., who was recently industrial adviser to the Government of Northern Ireland, said:

When France fell in 1940 it was no secret that the ports of the southern and eastern shores of the United Kingdom were almost unusable. The Mersey and the Clyde had their troubles but they were the two entrances to the British Isles on which we were dependent.

The protection of convoys coming to those two ports was a vital matter, and Ulster is situated opposite the Clyde and Mersey. Our great danger in 1940 was the uncovered channel in mid-Atlantic, not reached by air patrols from either side. Without the bases of Ulster that channel would have been 200 miles wider than it was."

Sir Ernest said that from the fall of France up to D-Day every Canadian soldier and every soldier from the United States who entered Great Britain came under the protection of Ulster.

He emphasized that the strategic position of Northern Ireland is so important that "her political position admits of no compromise, and it should be a fixed policy in Empire councils that there be no gambling with her ports."

He suggested that certain factions might "look upon the division of Ireland as an untidy arrangement, and would, perhaps, use the traditional British policy of appeasement to effect what they call "tidying it up."

Sir Ernest declared that should the attempt be made, "I hope Canada will exercise its influence. Of three avenues to the east from America, as described by Walter Lippmann, United States economist-columnist, Ulster was more important than Gibraltar of Cape Town, he said.

FOUNDED MOTHER'S DAY

Anna Jarvis, 83 year-old founder of Mother's Day, is almost blind and practically penniless. A $700,000 estate left by her brother, Claude S. Jarvis, in 1926 has been dissipated by poor administration. Miss Jarvis founded Mother's Day in 1908 as a tribute to her mother.

The word grenade was taken from the French word for pomegranate, because of a resemblance in shape to the fruit.

Enjoying Winter

Cpl. Cunningham, of Hamilton, Ont., makes friends with two Dutch children by taking them for a romp across the snow-covered countryside near Wijchen, Holland. A windmill, characteristic of the Netherlands, makes a picturesque backdrop.

A New Fibre

Is Said To Be The Strongest In The World

A new fibre, called "Fortisan" manufactured by British Celanese, Limited, England, is claimed to be the strongest in the world. Its many wartime uses include parachute canopies and cords for dropping supplies from aircraft. In addition to its immense strength and extreme thinness Fortisan fibre has very high insulating properties, so that it is especially valuable for covering electrical wire. Fabrics made from this fibre weigh only 0.85 ounces per square yard.

The practice of inhalling snuff became common in England during the 17th century.

Tragic Details

Sinking Of Hospital Ship Amsterdam Off Cherbourg

The War Office in announcing 10 decorations for heroism, disclosed many tragic details of the sinking of the 1,200-ton hospital ship Amsterdam off Cherbourg last August 7, although silence was maintained on the loss of life.

A former passenger steamer, loaded with British wounded, many of them suffering from shell-shock, the Amsterdam was torpedoed by a German submarine and sank in 14 minutes after breaking in two.

Censorship permitted a London newspaper to publish the bare fact of the sinking November 21 but no announcement of full details has yet come from official quarters.

Accounts of the bravery displayed by six officers—three of them nurses—and four men of the ranks, all British, disclosed that the torpedo hit the stern of the ship. Some patients in a ward under the after-deck were killed by the explosion. Others drowned.

The Order of the British Empire was awarded to Lieut. Oliver Gray of Glasgow who was in charge of the ward, which was sheared in half when the vessel parted.

"He did not leave the ward until all living patients had gone," the citation read. "The ship capsized and sank while this officer was standing on the horizontal starboard side trying to rescue a nurse through a porthole of the lower deck where she was trapped."

Three nurses instead of taking positions in lifeboats remained aboard the stricken vessel, evacuating the seriously wounded until the ship sank and they were thrown into the sea.

One of these was Miss Lily McNicholas who could not swim and was floundering about in the water until rescued by a U.S. Navy cutter.

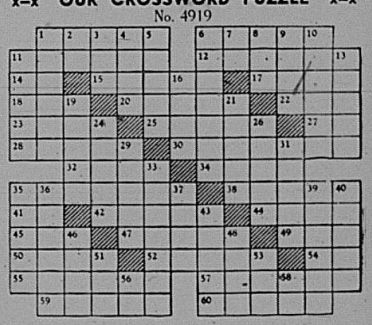
Four men of the ranks were awarded the British Empire Medal. One, a sergeant, Alistair Mitchell, was blown out of his cot in the stern deckhouse but he entered the wrecked ward and began carrying patients to the deck.

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

The Norden bombsight is said to enable a marksman to drop a bomb into a pickle-barrel from 10,000 feet. That's only fair shooting, but after a little practice we suppose he can flip one into a nailkeg at 20,000 feet, says the Ottawa Citizen.

X–X OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE X–X

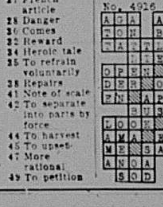
No. 4919



HORIZONTAL
1 Multitude
6 At a subsequent time
11 Participant
12 Anointed
14 Toward
15 Decoys
17 Capital of Latvia
18 Outfit
20 To extend
22 Posed
23 Cooled
25 Outflow
27 French article
28 Danger
30 Comes
32 Reward
34 Heroic tale
35 To refrain voluntarily
38 Repairs
41 Note of scale
42 To separate into parts by force
44 To harvest
45 To upset
47 More rational
49 To petition
50 Cry of regret
52 Maxim
54 Exist
55 To narrate
57 Exhibited
59 Removes
60 Compound ether

VERTICAL
1 Select
2 Sun god
3 Globe
4 To erode
5 Removed moisture from
6 East Indian natives
7 Article
8 Music: three
9 Ancient European country
10 To entertain royally
11 To plunder
13 Tropical fruits
16 Ancient Irish capital
19 Primary sources
21 Man's name
24 Pasta
26 African river
29 Bounds
31 Wind determiners
33 Expands
35 Sacrificial structure
36 Set free on security
37 Baseball team
39 One who paints coarsely
40 Celerity
43 Rigid
46 Wan
48 Soaks
51 Sodium chloride
53 To make lace
56 Symbol for tellurium
58 Earth goddess

Answer to No. 4916



THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

ANSWER: At neither time. Foxes never travel in packs.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By Fred Neher

"Well, take me on a tour of the house, so I can go home and tell my mother all about it."

REG'LAR FELLERS—*Publicity Man*

BY GENE BYRNES

OUR COMPLETE SHORT STORY—

Hot Saxophone

By MARCIA DAUGHTREY

McClure Newspaper Syndicate

It was their last dance together. Not that they had admitted it in so many words, but their eyes, clinging, and their voices, faintly rough, betrayed what no syllables could articulate. At this time next month he would be married to Joan Jennings whose father owned more copper than you could shine in a lifetime, and the girl in Jonesy's arms this instant would be the wife of the young attorney of whom her family approved.

"Swell music," Ardis said.

"Even without my tenor sax beating it out," Jonesy agreed.

"The music's always better when you're on the stand," Ardis defended, "but it's wonderful to have you down here if it is only for a few minutes."

"You're a funny kid," Jonesy muttered unhappily. "Sitting around all evening just for the three or four dances I can have with you."

Ardis studied his lean profile, the smoothly shaven cheek, the flat-lying ear, the hint of deep wave in the dark brown hair. "It might not be bad being an orchestra wife," she said tentatively. "Lots of girls have a touch of gypsy blood."

Jonesy missed a step. "No home. On the road all the time. Constant uncertainty about dough. It doesn't harmonize unless the girl is independent in her own right . . ."

"I suppose not," Ardis said, her tone twenty below. "One has to be a gilded lily to marry into a band."

Jonesy's teeth ground together. "You make it sound like a sour deal. After all, there's no difference between a man picking out a snug spot for himself and a girl giving the down beat to some twerp with a steady job and good prospects for the future."

Despite the strain between them they moved rhythmically together in fullest accord with the music. It was always like that, the basic agreement, the fundamental harmony between them was not to be disturbed by their surface bickerings.

"Nobody wants to be an old maid," Ardis said defensively. "A girl has to marry someone."

"Oh, sure. Sure. 'And the heart of a maid to the heart of a man, ever this wide world over, dear.' Only that world-well lost type of romance went out with ostrich fans. Or maybe it hung around until the depression, and that finished it off."

"None of the fine romantic traditions mean much to you, do they, Jonesy?"

"Two dozen roses are swell, but they don't pay the rent. My theory is that very few people can afford love—the real thing. Most of us have to take substitutes. Hey . . . what's cookin'?"

Suddenly the animal-terrified cry of 'Fire' filled the room as the dancers milled and surged, shouting incoherently. From somewhere a flame had shot up to the paper-festooned ceiling and now the whole thing was ablaze.

Jonesy gripped Ardis' arm and forced an opening through the jostling screaming crowd. "Take it easy, everybody. Move toward that exit," he yelled. He might as well have been giving orders to Niagara. Staring deep into Ardis' eyes he said, "This may be it, honey. This may be the full rest."

"I don't care. I'm not afraid so long as we're together."

"But I don't want us to die together. I want us to live together," he blurted. "Gosh, it takes a lot to wake a guy up."

A piteous white face seemed to float backward past them. "Jonesy, that girl has fainted," Ardis shouted against his ear. "She'll collapse and be trampled to death."

He pivoted, caught the falling girl about the waist, and swung back. Ardis was gone. At the top of his lungs he called her name, but the word was lost in the turmoil. He stared wildly at passing faces; no use. Ardis had vanished. This inert stranger in his arms typified every other girl in the world but Ardis. An empty burden; a meaningless responsibility. He felt in his heart the roots of an expression he had seen, uncomprehendingly, on the faces of men who had married wisely, but without rapture.

The far corner of the rickety frame hall was now a mass of flame. Just above was the tower bearing the huge neon sign. When it collapsed . . .

In the thick smoke Jonesy's head began to whirl; he coughed until he thought his lungs would burst; he was blinded with tears, but he clutched doggedly the fragile body he held.

Then, miraculously, he was out in the open. He sucked air into his aching body, lifting his face to catch the spindrift from the hose. Two firemen took the girl and carried her to an ambulance. "You're O.K., buddy," they told him.

He tried to ask if someone had gone back into the building to drag out those who had been trapped, but his cracked lips mumbled unintelligibly. With other red-eyed, smoke-soaked wanderers, he trudged up and down behind the lines, looking, looking.

"Oh, Jonesy!" Ardis sobbed, catching his arm as he passed. "Oh, Jonesy."

Holding her close, he could only stare down at her begrimed face. "Where . . . I thought you . . ."

"I went back after your saxophone," she gasped. "No one else thought to save it, so I had to. We're going to need that sax in our lives forever and ever, amen."

A New Idea

Russians Extract Juice From Beets And Convert It Into Sweet Slabs

What appears to be a new idea in connection with the manufacture of sugar from beets is being tried in Russia. Sugar beet juice is being extracted and concentrated at the place of production to reduce costs of transportation. By this method the extracted juice is subjected to evaporation and converted into briquettes. These sweet slabs are sent to the large plants for processing into sugar. It has been shown that in this form the juice can be stored for several years without chemical change or loss of sugar content.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

SURPLUS MATERIAL

Jeeps will be marketable after the war, a mere civilian can readily understand. But it's hard to figure a wild popular demand for most of the items on the list of the $100,000,000,000 worth of surplus property the Government will have left on its hands. What private citizen is going to want a tank, a cargo ship, a B-29 bomber? Personally, we are not interested in any of the stuff, except, perhaps, a bazooka to hang up over the fireplace.—New York Times.

The first known greeting card appeared in England in 1842.

2602

Discovers Home Skin Remedy

This clean stainless antiseptic known all over Canada as Moone's Emerald Oil, is such a fine healing agent that Eczema, Barber's Itch, Salt Rheum, Itching Toes and Feet, and other inflammatory skin eruptions are often relieved in a few days. Moone's Emerald Oil is pleasant to use and it is so antiseptic and penetrating that many old stubborn cases of long standing have yielded to its influence. Moone's Emerald Oil is sold by good druggists everywhere to help rid you of stubborn pimples and unsightly skin troubles—satisfaction or money back.

The British Way

System Of Education Is Based On The Humanities

George E. Sokolsky, in the New York Sun, says: When Winston Churchill stood before the British Parliament to challenge his countrymen to accept his policy or dismiss him, he represented not only a political party, but a system of education based upon the humanities. He stated his principles, including a magnificent definition of democracy which shames the current adolescent palaver concerning the common man, and having set the guide-stones of the course, he gave his countrymen the choice of going on without him. He did not threaten. He did not purge. He did not smear. He did not assassinate character. He called in neither the police nor the soldiers. He spoke only of ideas, of procedures, of the evidence. He might have been lecturing a class on the battles of the Guelphs: it was as objective and impersonal as that.

It is the British system of education, based upon the humanities, which produces men like Churchill. The Germans deserted the humanities and developed into the most punctilious experts in the most minute fields and twice in a quarter of a century they have failed for all their skill and knowledge. The British for centuries have used broad-gauged philosophic types of men for leadership, men possessing, as a rule, no technical skill in any particular field and somehow they have managed to dominate the thinking and processes of the world.

GOES INTO SHIPS

A bronze bust of Adolf Hitler, "captured" by U.S. troops at a Nazi embassy in one of Europe's liberated capitals, was destined to help the Allies lick Germany. Twenty thousand workers cheered as oxyacetylene torches melted down the bust at a war bond rally in the Todd shipyard, New York. The melted metal will be used in ship construction.

Both Greenland and Iceland are in the western hemisphere.

SLEEP
DON'T COUGH
Take
BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE
CANADA'S LARGEST SELLING COUGH AND COLD REMEDY!

Canadians In Holland

—Canadian Army Overseas photo.

These Canadian soldiers are looking at a huge sign erected on the road to Nijmegen. It reads: "Second to None (2nd Corps insignia) Caen Bridgehead, Break Through Falaise Chambois, Seine Estuary, Pas de Calais and Channel Coast, Scheldt Estuary . . . and now!" The soldiers, left to right, are: Pte. George Ruben, Weyburn, Sask.; Pte. Clarence Nystrom, Pelly, Sask.; Pte. Herb Holo, Rose Valley, Sask.

Sensible Suggestion

United Nations Should Have Control Of Germany's Raw Materials

Germany's manufactured goods are not wanted here, but Britain and the Allied Nations should make Germany pay by taking from her the raw materials which are needed in excess of their production. In 1937, Germany's production of important industrial minerals was as follows: Copper, 33,000 tons. This exceeds the Spanish output, and was exceeded in Europe only by the Yugoslavian. Iron Ore, 3,200,000 tons. Lead, 78,000 tons the equivalent of the production of Spain or Yugoslavia. Zinc, 180,000 tons. To build up her war machine, Germany consumed all her production and was a heavy importer. The United Nations do not intend that Germany shall have any war machine after her defeat. They should therefore be able to draw upon these materials as they are needed. Such production would, of course, permit Germany to maintain some degree of war potential. It will be the business of the United Nations to see that these minerals are produced under strict control, and only under licence by the Occupying Powers for such purposes as they think desirable. And the first purpose will be to ensure that production is to the benefit of Germany's victims.—London Daily Mail.

About Coal

It Is Used For Many Other Purposes Besides A Heating Agent

The same substance goes into chewing gum, into plastics of many kinds and, if need be, into synthetic fuel. That substance is coal.

Much more than a basic heating agent to keep the home, office and factory warm, coal is the mainstay of the metals industry; it is the source of power for factories, trains, and most steamships.

As gas coal cooks food and hardens steels, and as coke it is one of the two chief requirements for the production of iron and steel.

Canadian consumption of coal has risen rapidly since the outbreak of war. In 1930-40 a slightly under-average total of 28.5 million short tons was used. Two years later, the total was 41.5 million, and for the last coal year it was approximately 44.4 million. The consumption increase since 1939 has been approximately 70 per cent.

Old British Custom

Many People Do Not Know Meaning Of Boxing Day

It is doubtful if many of the people observe Boxing Day are familiar with its true meaning. The custom of observing Boxing Day originated in the British Isles. There on December 26, it has been customary for generations to place parcelled or boxed gifts outside of homes for postmen, errand boys, etc. Christmas Night in the Old Country is known as Boxing Night.

Some people semed to have the mistaken idea that the name Boxing Day originated from a custom of keeping retail stores closed on December 26 in order that merchandise remaining after the Christmas shopping rush might be returned to boxes.

Quality Guaranteed

"SALADA" TEA

A Bit Of Holiday Spice

"Sugar and spice and everything nice"—that's what holiday cookies are made of! And so it is with these spicy Cinnamon Drop Cookies. Serve them as party refreshments, family fare, or for a holiday snack in the evening!

CINNAMON DROP COOKIES

⅓ cup shortening	3 cups sifted flour
⅓ cup brown sugar	1 tablespoon soda
1 cup molasses	¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup All-Bran	½ cup water
¼ cup sugar	1½ teaspoons cinnamon

Beat shortening until creamy. Add sugar gradually, mixing until thoroughly blended. Stir in molasses and All-Bran. Add sifted dry ingredients alternately with water, stirring to make a soft dough. Chill.

Roll tablespoonfuls of dough in sugar-cinnamon mixture. Place on greased cookie sheets; flattern if desired. Bake in moderate oven (375 degrees F.) about 15 minutes. Yield: 2½ dozen cookies (3 inches in diameter.)

SMILE AWHILE

They have just become engaged.

"I shall love," she cooed, "to share all your troubles."

"But, darling," he murmured, "I have none."

"No," she agreed, "but I mean when we are married."

• • • •

Sympathizing Friend—You must miss your husband very much, Mrs. Prosser.

Widow—Well, yes; it does seem strange to come into the shop and find something in the till!

• • • •

Tailor (measuring Scotsman for a suit of clothes. And, how would you like the pockets, sir?

McTavish: Well, just a wee bit difficult to get at.

• • • •

A schoolmistress asked a child what "S-e-e" spelled.

The child hesitated.

"What do I do when I look at you?" said the mistress.

"Thquint," replied the scholar.

• • • •

It was the night before inspection and the sergeant was real anxious to see that everybody was all cleaned up.

"Hey, yardbird," he says to one guy. "Did you take a shower?"

"Heck, no, sarge," says this guy. "Why—is there one missing?"

• • • •

"I don't like these photos at all," he said. "I look like an ape."

The photographer, famous for his wit as well as for his art, favored him with a glance of lofty disdain.

"You should have thought of that before you had them taken," was his reply as he turned back to work.

• • • •

Ethel (aged 6, combing hair)—Mama, wht makes my hair crack when I comb it?

Mama: Why, dear, you have electricity in your hair.

Ethel: A . . . we a funny family? I've got electricity in my hair and grandma has gas on her stomach.

• • • •

"Why are you crying?"

"Father called mother a waddling goose."

"Well?"

"Mother called father a stupid ass."

"But why are you crying?"

"Well, what am I?"

• • • •

Doctor: Do you know, honey, if I had to do it all over again, who I'd marry?

Wifey: No, who?

Doctor: You.

Wifey: Oh, no, you wouldn't.

• • • •

Boss—Did you put that note where it would be sure to attract Mr. Smith's attention when he came in?

Office Boy—Yes, sir, I stuck a pin through it and put it on his chair.

Roomy 1-Yard Apron

By ANNE ADAMS

Keep the home fires burning in a heart-and-flowers apron! Small size, Pattern 4920, takes just ONE YARD! Easy embroidery included.

Pattern 4920 comes in sizes small (14-16), medium (18-20), large (40-42), extra large (44-46). Small size, ONE YARD 35-inch material.

Send twenty cents (20c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern. Write plainly Size, Name, Address and Style Number and send orders to the Anne Adams Pattern Dept., Winnipeg Newspaper Union, 175 McDermot Ave. E., Winnipeg, Man. "Because of the slowness of the mails delivery of our patterns may take a few days longer than usual."

A WELCOME GIFT

More than 1,500 shipyard employees at the J. A. Jones Construction Co., Brunswick, Ga., voluntarily gave up their Christmas holiday to work without pay on a cargo carrying vessel as a gift to the men on the fighting fronts. An additional 500 volunteered for the night shift.

The rose is a symbol of silence and gave rise to the phrase "sub-rosa", meaning "under the rose" or in secret.

Look out for Trouble from Sluggish KIDNEYS

Try the Original "Dutch Drops"

It is poisonous waste that your kidneys should be filtering out of your blood that may cause backache, dizzy spells, leg cramps, restless, sleep-broken nights, and smarting and burning. For relief use the remedy that has won the grateful thanks of thousands for many years—GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules.

This effective diuretic and kidney stimulant is the original and genuine Dutch Drops in carefully measured amounts in tasteless Capsules. It is one of the most favorably known remedies for relieving congested kidneys and irritated bladder. It works swiftly, helping the delicate filters of your kidneys to purify the blood.

Be sure you get the original and genuine—[illegible] in Canada. Insist on getting GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules, [illegible] at your druggists.

JUST "BY THE WAY"

Thursday, January 11 1945

ELKHORN'S HOSPITAL SITUATION

THERE are serious reflections these days regarding the hospital at Elkhorn, which institution has given such splendid service for several years past—IT MAY BE CLOSED, rumor says.

It appears that the trouble is all on account of classification—Elkhorn's institution of medical service is classified as a Private Institution, and is therefore subject to some considerable taxation annually.

From reports reaching *The Elkhorn Mercury* office, the situation has arisen through certain unwise personal feelings. There were a few "influential" taxpayers, it is claimed, who saw to it that our little Cottage Hospital was not exempt from taxation and they pressed their point with a degree of success.

NOW COMES THE "PAY-OFF": Because of certain vindictive action the owner of the institution is finding it difficult indeed to continue offering Elkhorn and district a service that has been distinctly efficient and of great value.

Should it happen that the institution be closed, there will be wide-spread regrets, largely because of that "nigger in the wood-pile" attitude that has often curailed progress in this neck-of-the-woods, ever since *The Elkhorn Mercury* has had he privilege of sponsoring all things (personal or impersonal) that were of distinct benefit to those who use Elkhorn as a trading centre.

WHAT ABOUT 1945?

PROBABLY a hundred trains come into Windsor Station, Montreal, every day. One of these last week carried men returning from four or five years overseas on a thirty-day Christmas leave. The reunion of these men with their families was something that literally tore at your heart.

Let's hope that there will be many more such trains coming in during this New Year, but for some of us no train will ever bring back the ones we wait for. If, however, we decide to be different this year we will be able to play our part in helping to cure the things that make all this necessary.

The answer is not complicated. We have heard it over and over aagin. It's how we live—and what we do about it, that matters.

Over the last thirty years we have tried nearly everything else. We have tried political changes and new parties. We've experienced tremendous booms and deep depressions. We've written new peace pacts and any number of alliances.

But fundamentally, as Dr. Frank Buchman, founder of the Oxford Group said in 1936, "national and world problems remain the same because the root problem—human nature—remains unsolved. Until we deal with human nature drastically and thoroughly on a national scale, nations must still follow their historic road to violence and destruction. The only possible alternatives are collaps or God Control. And collapse is simply the selfishness of us all put together. You and I, if we are selfish, are part of the disease; just as you and I, if we are God-controlled, can be part of the cure."

Making this work will need something more than good resolutions which we forget in a couple of weeks. It means making decisions that will last a lifetime.

OLD CARTONS CAN BE RE-USED

Old cartons, if carefully opened when delivered, can be re-used to the great advantage of the present shortage in carton materials.

When returning empty bottles, please use old carton together with any extra used cartons on hand.

Cartons take material and labour and it is in the interests of conservation that your co-operation is required.

THE DREWRYS LIMITED

MD 122

St. Mark's Anglican Church
Elkhorn, Man.

8 p.m. (C.D.S.T.)
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

We Welcome You to Evening Prayer this week.

Phone NEWS to 42

SPECIAL DELIVERY

(A CHRISTMAS STORY)

By Roger Wheeler

EDITH'S drab room overlooked a snow-covered roof. Not the clean, cheery snow like they had back home on the farm but a murky gray covering on which rested the soot of a thousand city chimneys.

"So this is Christmas," she moaned, leaving her chair to pace the floor. "Oh! What I'd give to be back home tomorrow!"

But then, Edith had two Christmas presents to which she could look forward. Today, Christmas eve, the mailman MUST bring her annual package from home. And tomorrow there would be Christmas dinner with Ken—dear Ken who was working so hard these days that he could hardly take time off to think about Christmas.

Edith heard the bell ring downstairs and she skipped to her door, opening it softly and waiting tensely while the old landlady, answered.

Yes, it was the mailman! And then came the shrill cry: "Miss Harris! Mail for you!"

Edith practically leaped downstairs, for there would be her package from home. Then her heart sank, for the landlady handed her only two letters, a greeting card from her friend Margie and (of all things at Christmas!) a bill from the department store.

Edith climbed sorrowfully back to her room and wept. Something was wrong, for Mother and Dad never forgot her at Christmas. She cried spasmodically the rest of the day, while downstairs she heard the other roomers shouting Christmas greetings as they arrived and departed.

But finally Edith consoled herself, for she could still look forward to Christmas dinner with Ken tomorrow!

He was due at two o'clock that day, and after church Edith hurried home to get ready. At 1:30 she was seated restlessly awaiting the doorbell.

She was still waiting at 2:30, for Ken did not arrive. And Edith was getting hungry.

Three o'clock passed, and Edith frowned.

"What could have happened to him?" she asked herself.

At four o'clock she cried. It was too much! First her family had forgotten, and now Ken had chosen Christmas day to tell her in this painful fashion that he didn't care!

At 6 p. m. misery began mingling with the pangs of hunger. Edith put on her coat and started to the corner restaurant. But she never got past the door. There she ran into a breathless Ken.

"Edith, dear!" he cried. "Sorry to be so late, but I knew you'd understand when you got my note."

"But—" Edith was confused, "I didn't receive any note, Ken."

"What? But I sent a special delivery message when the boss asked me to finish that laboratory experiment this afternoon. What happened to it?"

The blundering old landlady answered him.

"Please come in or go out, and close the door," she barked from the hall. Then—

"Incidentally, Miss Harris, I forgot to give you these things. They arrived this afternoon."

She handed Edith the missing special delivery letter—and a huge package from home! Edith tore into the Christmas box and found a note from Mother. They'd had a blizzard; couldn't get to town; she hoped Edith would get the package Christmas day.

A few minutes later a happy Edith sat across the table from her Ken in the little restaurant around the corner.

"And now, dear," he began very carefully. "How about your Christmas present for me?"

"But I gave you the fountain pen, Ken," she protested.

"Yes, silly one, and I appreciated it. But if you want to make me still happier, listen to this. The boss came in tonight and said I'd done such a fine job on that research project that he was raising my salary. Know what that means?"

"Not the faintest idea," Edith lied. For, after all, you can't take the words out of a man's mouth when he's about to propose!

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Badger Feast

One of the strangest surviving Christmas customs is the badger feast held at Ilchester, Somerset. It was started by poachers in Norman times, says the Montreal Herald, and has continued without a break. The lads of the village catch a badger, kill and dress it some time before the feast. On Christmas eve it is strung on a spit over a huge fire at the inn and cooked slowly. When it is ready the party attack it with fingers and pen-knives; no cutlery other than this is allowed.

Are You Doing Your Best to

CONSERVE COAL!

Check This List

- Have you had your furnace and pipes cleaned—and any needed repairs made to your heating system? ☐
- Have your windows and doors been weatherstripped and caulked? ☐
- Have you sufficient storm sash on your windows? ☐
- Have you shut off unused rooms in your home? ☐
- Do you intend to avoid excessive temperatures in your home—68 degrees by day and 58 degrees at night? ☐
- Will you fire your furnace efficiently—getting the maximum of heat for every pound of coal? ☐
- Will you be saving at least one ton of coal in five? ☐

Save one ton in five

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[] Christian Herald 9 Mos.
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